

SOLDIERS RADIO / TELEVISION NEWS SCRIPT

STERLINGVILLE

SOLDIERS WITH THE 10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION STOMP THROUGH THE REMNANTS OF A 19TH CENTURY IRON FOUNDRY VILLAGE. AFTER LYING UNTOUCHED FOR DECADES, THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE BUILDINGS BULLDOZED BACK IN 1941 DURING FORT DRUM'S WORLD WAR TWO EXPANSION NOW SERVE AS A TRAINING GROUND FOR THE WAR IN IRAQ. STERLINGVILLE, NEW YORK IS BACK ON THE MAP.

Sergeant William Scott/ 10th Mountain Division: “You can drive down the road in the training area and see positions that train us better for the war we’re fighting today, basically. We have more MOUT environment, more traffic control point scenarios, observation points. Everything we use over there.”

STERLINGVILLE IS ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. CULTURAL RESOURCES EXPERTS AT FORT DRUM

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DEvised A WAY TO USE THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE OLD VILLAGE WITHOUT DAMAGING THEIR INTEGRITY. CREWS COVER THE OLD STONework WITH FILTER FABRICS, FOLLOWED BY DIFFERENT TYPES OF FILL AND REINFORCEMENT MATERIAL – CREATING A TRAINING GROUND FOR SOLDIERS.

Laurie Rush/ Cultural Resources Program Manager: “At some point if an archaeologist or preservationist wanted to come back in a hundred years or five hundred years, theoretically they should be able to undo the fill, pull the fabric back and find the foundation just the way it was when we buried it.”

SOLDIERS CAN USE THE SITE FOR ANY KIND OF TRAINING THAT DOESN'T INVOLVE DIGGING OR EXPLOSIVES. SINCE STERLINGVILLE CAN SERVE AS ANY HISTORIC CITY IN IRAQ, IT TEACHES SOLDIERS HOW TO CORRECTLY OCCUPY A CULTURAL SITE DURING OVERSEAS OPERATIONS. JINI RYAN, FORT DRUM, NEW YORK.